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SUBJECT: ANTI-SEMITIC BOOK REMOVED FROM UNIVERSITY BOOKSHELVES

(U) The St. Petersburg University of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs - the training ground for future policemen - recently issued a controversial textbook "History of the Domestic Government and Rights" to students as part of a history course. The book is decidedly anti-Semitic in tone, blaming Jews for all of Russia's problems and accusing Gorbachev of having engineered the downfall of the Soviet Union as part of a Zionist plot. The book seems to have initially had the backing of the university, as it was copyrighted by the university itself in conjunction with the author. Local media drew public attention to the issue. On March 30 two university officials appeared on television and acknowledged that the book was outrageous and shameful. The university subsequently removed all copies of the textbook from its library and bookshop on March 31.

GWALTNEY